eSTART

Leave Course Guide for Managers

August 2015

General Information About This Manual

This manual is designed to provide State employees with an overview of the eSTART Time and Attendance System. This manual provides basic procedures; however, you may need to seek clarification on specific agency procedures or rules from your agency personnel manager or supervisor.

Nothing in this handbook should be construed to amend any laws, regulations, policies or procedures established by the State of Alabama or specifically the Alabama State Personnel Department.

Certain procedures contained within this manual are subject to change or revision without prior notice. Employees will be notified as soon as possible when changes or revisions occur.

All leave accruals and usages in eSTART are estimates and/or projections that are based on the concept that all employees earn leave and have leave to use. These estimates and projections may not be accurate.

Table of Contents

Core Leave Concepts

Importance

Purpose

It is important that you consistently and accurately administer State of Alabama's leave policy rules. To make this happen, you need to manage employees' paid and unpaid leave time in an efficient and timely manner. The Leave application supports your ability to perform leave management tasks as you open and maintain leave cases, send leave documents, and allocate and track the amount of leave an employee takes.

eSTART Leave:

- Automates the process of administering leave policies.

- Helps State of Alabama achieve compliance with required federal, state, and local mandates.
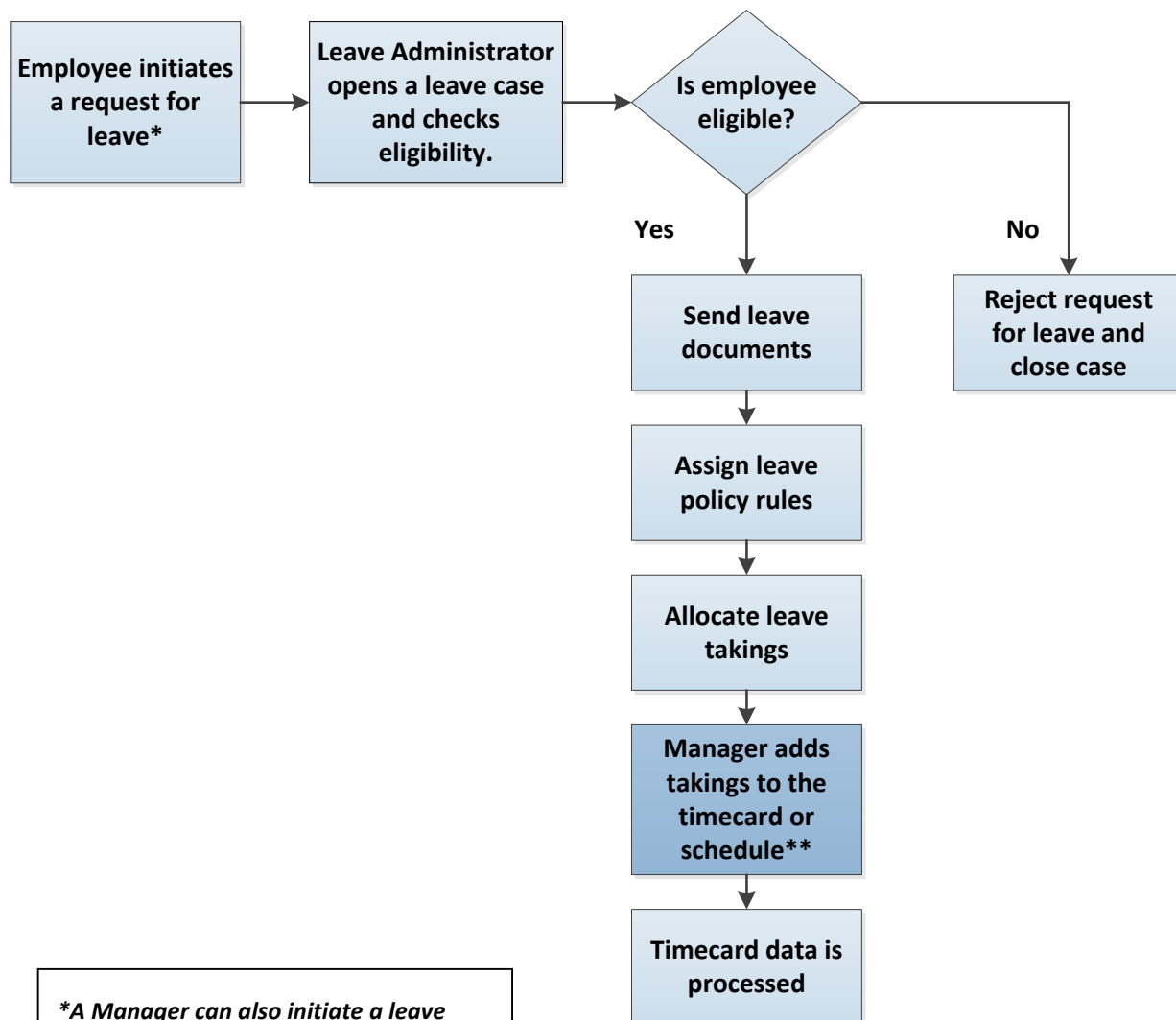
The Leave Process

Purpose

The Leave process automates the administering and tracking of paid and unpaid leave policies. Managers can easily track both continuous and intermittent leave, and add leave time against an employee's open leave case. In addition to centralizing administration of leave policies throughout State of Alabama, employees benefit from the consistent application of leave policies to individual leave cases.

The following illustration shows the high-level process for administering leave cases.

```
┌────────────────┐     ┌────────────────┐        ╱─────────────╲
│ Employee       │     │ Leave          │       ╱ Is employee   ╲──── No ────┐
│ initiates      │────▶│ Administrator  │──────▶╲ eligible?     ╱            │
│ a request for  │     │ opens a leave  │        ╲─────────────╱             │
│ leave*         │     │ case and checks │            │ Yes                  ▼
└────────────────┘     │ eligibility.   │            │              ┌────────────────┐
                       └────────────────┘            ▼              │ Reject request │
                                             ┌────────────────┐     │ for leave and  │
                                             │ Send leave     │     │ close case     │
                                             │ documents      │     └────────────────┘
                                             └────────────────┘
                                                     │
                                                     ▼
                                             ┌────────────────┐
                                             │ Assign leave   │
                                             │ policy rules   │
                                             └────────────────┘
                                                     │
                                                     ▼
                                             ┌────────────────┐
                                             │ Allocate leave │
                                             │ takings        │
                                             └────────────────┘
                                                     │
                                                     ▼
                                             ┌────────────────┐
                                             │ Manager adds   │
                                             │ takings to the │
                                             │ timecard or    │
                                             │ schedule**     │
                                             └────────────────┘
                                                     │
                                                     ▼
                                             ┌────────────────┐
                                             │ Timecard data  │
                                             │ is processed   │
                                             └────────────────┘
```

A Manager can also initiate a leave request on behalf of the employee.

**The Manager may commit leave to the timecard. An employee may submit a time off request for an open and approved case.*

Roles and Responsibilities

Purpose

Each employee and manager has responsibilities that are important in the leave process. Each person's role determines his or her responsibilities, and the tasks that he or she performs in the application.

Common Employee Tasks

- Submit new leave case requests.

- Request time off for an open and approved leave case.

- Provide required leave documentation.

- Submit requests for additional leave, as needed.

Common Manager Tasks

On a daily or as needed basis, department managers perform the following tasks:

- Monitor leave events through leave views.

- Enter hours for employees' leave cases.

On a pay period or as-needed basis, managers perform the following task:

- Run leave reports.

Common Leave Administrator Tasks

On a pay-period or as-needed basis, typical Leave Administrator tasks include:

- Determine eligibility and open leave cases.

- Administer open leave cases, including documentation.

- Enter hours for employees' continuous leave cases.

- Run leave reports.

Managing Leave

Exploring Leave Tools in eSTART

Purpose

The navigator is your starting point for creating and maintaining your employees' time and leave information. There are two key tools available in the Related Items pane that help you to perform common leave tasks, such as entering your employees' leave takings and monitoring leave cases.

Key Leave Tools

Navigator area	Description
My Views	Access the My Views workspace in eSTART to view Leave Hours View and Leave Cases View. You can also use this workspace to access employee timecards for purposes of entering leave time for an employee.
Reports Manager	Access the Reports Manager workspace in eSTART to run and view leave reports, such as the Leave Hours Detail and Leave Hours Summary reports.

Accessing Leave Views

Purpose
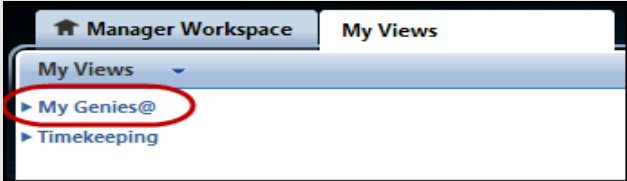
eSTART includes the following leave Views:

- Leave Cases View

- Leave Hours View

Either of these Views may be used as a starting point for viewing and monitoring employee leave cases. Leave Views are accessed from the same workspace that timekeeper views are accessed.

Exercise

You want to access the **Leave Views**.

Steps		
1	In the **Related Items** pane, click the **arrow** to expand the pane, and select **My Views**.	
2	Click the arrow next to **My Genies** to expand the category.	
3	Select **Leave Hours View.**	
4	Select **AL-All Home and Transferred-In** from the **Show** drop-down. Select **Next Pay Period** selected in the **Time Period** drop-down.	

Using the Tools in Leave Views

Quick links are located at the top of the View, and let you quickly access editors and tools that display information specific to one or more employees. For example, select an employee and click the Timecard quick link to access his or her timecard for purposes of adding leave time; or select multiple employees and click the Reports quick link to generate a report for only those selected employees.

The **Leave** drop-down, located on the Action Bar, is also available and will be used to view or add new leave cases.

Note: These tools are common to both the Leave Hours View and the Leave Cases View.

> **Tip**
>
> There are various ways to select employees:
>
> - Use the **Ctrl** key to select more than one employee not listed next to each other.
> - Use the **Shift** key to select all employees listed between two employees.
> - Click and drag the mouse to select employees.
> - Choose **Actions>Select All** to select all employees.

The **Show** drop-down lets you select and display a specific group of employees. The default setting for the Show field when you log on is **All Home and Transferred In**, which displays all employees that report to you. You can use the Show field to further refine your selection.

The **Time Period** field lets you define the desired timeframe. The default setting for the Time Period field is **Current Pay Period**. You can select a predefined date period option, such as Previous Pay Period or, you can define a specific date or range of dates.

Exploring the Leave Hours View

Purpose

The Leave Hours View is especially useful for viewing total leave hours. It also provides other information about each leave case in eSTART, including:

- Leave Case Status

- Last date of committed paid and unpaid leave time

- Leave end date (if one is provided)

Key Information in the Leave Hours View

Column	Description
Leave Case Status	Indicates the status of the leave case for the specified time period, such as Open, Closed, Pending, Submitted, or Retracted.
Leave Case Code	Type of leave, such as Self or Family.
Leave Start Date	This is the first day that the employee takes leave.
Leave End Date	This is the employee's expected return date.
Committed Paid/ Unpaid Leave Time	The Committed Paid Leave Time and Committed Unpaid Leave Time columns show the amount of paid and unpaid time that has been committed to the schedule or timecard in the selected time period.
Last Date/Committed Paid/Unpaid Leave Time	The Last Date/Committed Paid Leave Time and Last Date/Committed Unpaid Leave Time columns show the date of the last committed paid and unpaid amounts.
Total Paid/Unpaid Leave Takings	The Total Paid Leave Takings and Total Unpaid Leave Takings columns show the total amount of paid and unpaid leave that an employee has taken.

Exercise

You want to know when employee **Penny Punch** will return from maternity leave and how much leave time has been committed to **Sandy Stamp's** timecard. Select **Next Pay Period.**

The **Leave Hours View** was selected above. Remain on this page.

Steps		
1	**Note:** Click two column headers to sort the data. • A down arrow shows the sort as descending; an up arrow shows the sort as ascending. A number displays in each column heading next to the up or down arrow to identify the primary sorting column.	
2	Find **Penny Punch** and view her **Leave End Date** column.	
3	Find **Sandy Stamp** and view her **Committed Paid Leave Time** column.	

Exploring the Leave Cases View

Purpose

The Leave Cases View is especially useful for viewing leave reasons and leave frequencies. It also provides other information about each leave case in eSTART including:

- Leave case status

- Leave category

- Initial leave request date

Key Information in the Leave Cases View

LEAVE CASES VIEW											
Last Refreshed: 3:26PM			Show AL-All Home and Transf... ▼ Edit	Time Period	Current Pay Period ▼	Refresh					
Actions ▼ Punch ▼ Amount ▼ Schedule ▼ Leave ▼											
Name	Leave Case Status	Leave Category	Leave Reason	Leave Case Code	Leave Frequency	Leave Case Approval Status	Initial Leave Request Date	Leave Start Date	Documents Overdue	New Leave Requests	Leave End Date
Exempt1, EdwardB											
Manager1, JuniorB											
Newby1, NeilB											
Punch1, PennyB											
Stamp1, SandyB	Open	FMLA	Family - Parent	FPARNT	Intermittent	Approved	9/01/2014	9/01/2014			

Column	Description
Leave Case Status	Status of a leave case, such as Open, Closed, or Submitted.
Leave Category	Type of leave, such as Self or Family.
Leave Reason	Indicates a more specific leave such as serious illness or birth.
Leave Case Code	Type of leave, such as Self or Family.
Leave Frequency	Indicates whether the employee is on continuous or intermittent leave.
Leave Case Approval Status	Indicates whether a leave request is approved, pending or denied.
Initial Leave Request Date	Date the leave request was made.
Leave Start Date	Date leave starts for an employee.
Documents Overdue	A check in this column indicates that a document is overdue.
New Leave Requests	A check in this column indicates additional time requested on an existing leave case.
Leave End Date	The expected date on which an employee returns to work.

Exercise

You want to review the **status** and **frequency** of **Sandy Stamp's** leave case. Access the **Leave Cases View** to review Sandy's leave information in the **Current Pay period**.

The **Leave Cases View** was selected above. Remain on this page.

Steps		
1	**Note:** Click two column headers to sort the data. • A down arrow shows the sort as descending; an up arrow shows the sort as ascending. A number displays in each column heading next to the up or down arrow to identify primary sorting column.	**LEAVE CASES VIEW** Last Refreshed: 3:36PM Show AL-All Home and Transf... ▼ Edit Actions ▼ Punch ▼ Amount ▼ Schedule ▼ Leave ▼ | Name 2∕	Leave Case Status	Leave Category	Leave Rea... 1▽	Leave Case Code	Leave Frequency
Stamp1, SandyC	Open	FMLA	Family – Parent	FPARNT	Intermittent
Exempt1, EdwardC					
Manager1, JuniorC					
Newby1, NeilC					
Punch1, PennyC						
2	Review the status and frequency information for **Sandy Stamp**.	**LEAVE CASES VIEW** Last Refreshed: 3:36PM Show AL-All Home and Transf... ▼ Edit Actions ▼ Punch ▼ Amount ▼ Schedule ▼ Leave ▼ | Name 2∕	Leave Case Status	Leave Category	Leave Rea... 1▽	Leave Case Code	Leave Frequency
Stamp1, SandyC	Open	FMLA	Family – Parent	FPARNT	Intermittent
Exempt1, EdwardC					
Manager1, JuniorC					
Newby1, NeilC					
Punch1, PennyC						

Reviewing Leave Time in a Timecard

Purpose

After leave has been approved and committed for an employee by your Leave Administrator, you can view those leave hours in your employee's timecard. Leave time displays differently than other pay codes in the timecard. Leave time displays in black text with the prefix "LV" and is not editable.

Exercise

Penny Punch is out on leave. You want to review her timecard to confirm that the leave hours are accurate. The **Leave Cases View** was selected in the previous exercise. Remain on this page.

Steps		
1	Select **AL-All Home and Transferred-In** from the **Show** drop-down. Select **Next Pay Period** selected in the **Time Period** drop-down.	
2	Select **Penny Punch** then click the **Timecard** link.	
3	Review the leave takings in the timecard for the selected time period. **LV – Tracking** always displays as an entry on the timecard for tracking purposes. The secondary entry(s) describe the type of leave used. **Totals and Schedule** provides a summary for the time period selected. **Note:** FMLA cases use leave in a certain order, based on the type of case. See the **Extended Leave Cascade** job aid for this information.	

> **Note**
>
> Contact your Leave Administrator to discuss necessary leave modifications to an employee's leave hours.

Requesting Leave for an Employee

Purpose

Occasionally, it is necessary to initiate a leave request for an employee who is unable to do so, for example, when an employee is already on sick leave.

The Leave Case Editor is a tool in both Leave Views that allows you to electronically complete a request for leave on the employee's behalf. Once you submit the leave request, it is electronically sent to the Leave Administrator who will check the employee's eligibility and process the proper documentation.

The Leave Case Editor can be accessed through a Quick Link in either the Leave Hours View or the Leave Cases View as illustrated below.

Exercise

Yesterday, employee, **Edward Exempt**, called to tell you that he will be unable to come to work due to an injury he sustained while working in his yard. He is unable to work and does not know when he will return. Edward has asked you to initiate a leave of absence request. You want to access **Edward Exempt's** record and **initiate a leave request** on his behalf.

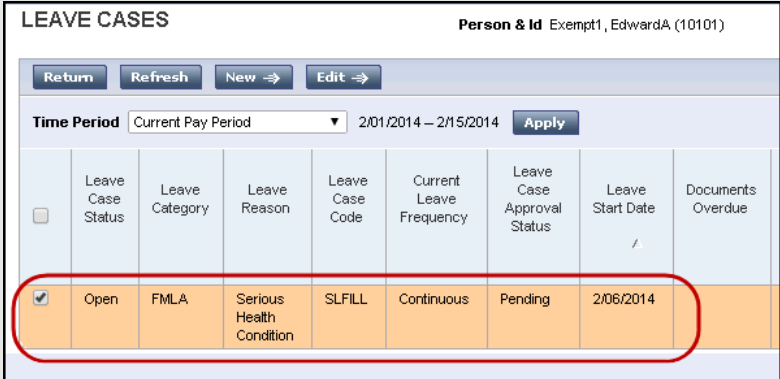|	Steps	
1	In the **Related Items** pane, click the **arrow** to expand the pane, and select **My Views**.	
2	Click the arrow next to **My Genies** to expand the category.	
3	Select either **Leave Cases View** or **Leave Hours View**.	
4	From the **Show** drop-down list, select **All Home and Transferred-In**.	
5	From the **Time Period** drop-down list, select **Current Pay Period**.	
6	Select **Edward Exempt** and then click **Leave Cases**. **Note:** You may also select the **Leave** drop-down. Then select **New Leave Case**.	
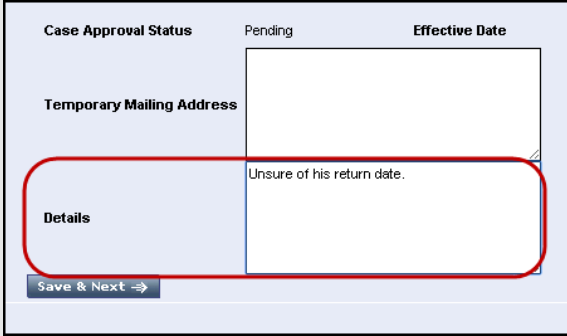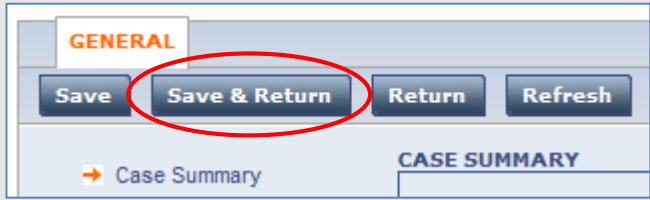
Steps

7	From the **Leave Cases** workspace, click **New**.

Timecard | Schedule | People | Reports | Leave Cases

LEAVE CASES   Person & Id Exempt1, EdwardB (20101)

[Return] [Refresh] [New ⇒] [Edit ⇒]

Time Period Current Pay Period ▼ 2/16/2014 – 2/28/2014 [Apply]

☐	Leave Case Status	Leave Category	Leave Reason	Leave Case Code	Current Leave Frequency	Leave Case Approval Status	Leave Start Date /

8	In the **Leave Start Date** field, enter the date the employee will begin the leave or select a date using the calendar icon. For this exercise, **today's date** is the default. Leave this date selected.

CASE SUMMARY

	Paid Leave	Unpaid Leave
Total Committed Takings	0:00	0:00

* **Leave Start Date** 2/06/2014   * **Initial Leave Request Date** 2/07/2014

Leave End Date

Requested Daily Leave Hours

Same each day/Variable   Same hours each day

9	In the **Initial Leave Request Date**, enter the date the employee requested leave or select a date using the calendar icon. For this exercise, **today's date** is the default. Leave this date selected.

10	In the **Leave Category** field, accept the default value of **FMLA**.

Case Status   Open

* **Leave Category**   FMLA ▼

Reason   <None> ▼

Leave Frequency   Continuous ▼

* **Leave Case Code**

11	From the Leave Reason drop-down list, select the appropriate leave reason. For this exercise, select Serious Health Condition. Note: After selecting a reason, the Leave Case Code is automatically populated.

Case Status   Open

* **Leave Category**   FMLA ▼

Reason   <None> ▼

Leave Frequency

* **Leave Case Code**

Case Approval Status

<None>
Adoption Foster Care
Birth
Family - Child
Family - Parent
Family - Spouse
Military Caregiver
Military Exigency
Serious Health Condition

12	From the Leave Frequency drop-down list, select the appropriate frequency of the employee's leave. For this exercise, select Continuous.

Case Status   Open

* **Leave Category**   FMLA ▼

Reason   Serious Health Condition ▼

Leave Frequency   Continuous ▼

Continuous
Intermittent

Steps

13	In the **Effective Date** field, enter the date the leave *frequency* becomes effective or select a date using the calendar icon. Leave **today's date** selected.	
14	In the **Temporary Mailing Address** field, enter a mailing address, if necessary. **Note:** This is an optional field that may be used should the employee need to leave an alternate address.	
15	(Optional) in the **Details** field, enter any other details that may be relevant to the leave request.	
16	Click **Save & Return** to close the leave request and return to the Leave Cases workspace.	
17	Confirm that the leave information is correct and that the leave request was successfully submitted by reviewing the information in the **Leave Cases** workspace.	

Note

Initially the manager may not have all the information needed to open the leave case. Additional information may need to be added at a later date.

Adding Leave Time to the Timecard
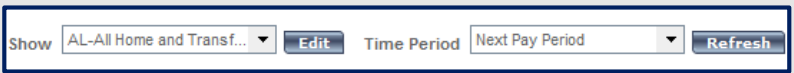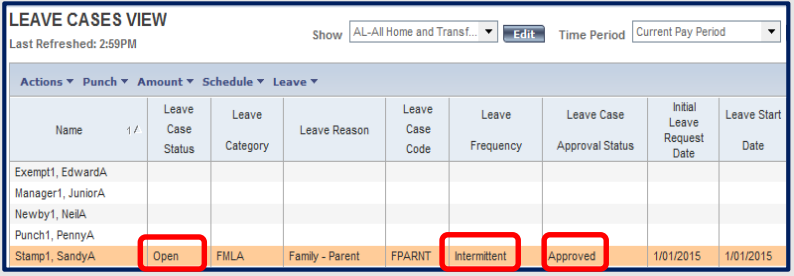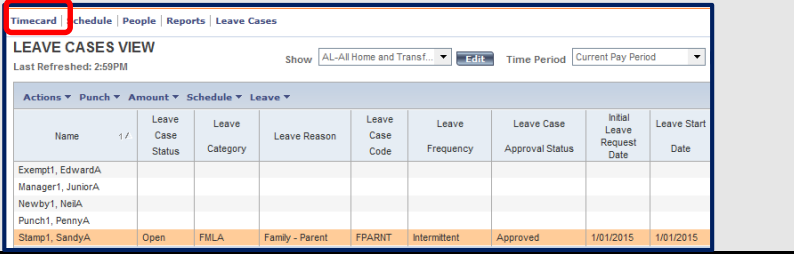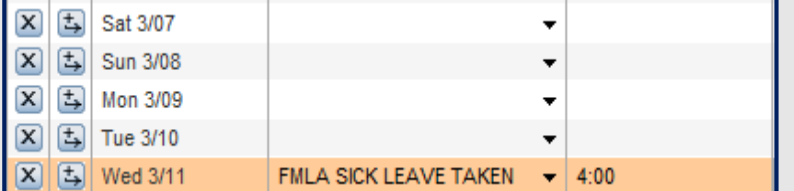
Purpose

A manager has the ability to add a pay code to the timecard for an employee who has an open and approved FMLA or Military leave case. This must be verified BEFORE adding the pay code to the timecard of an employee. **Note:** Do not add these pay codes to an employee's timecard unless all three conditions are met.

Exercise

Sandy Stamp has an open and approved intermittent leave case. She requested **four hours** of leave time for **Wednesday of the current pay period** to take her mother to physical therapy. Add the **FMLA Sick Leave Taken** pay code to her timecard.

Steps		
1	From **Related Items>My Views>My Genies,** select the **Leave Cases View.** Select **All Home and Transferred-In** from the **Show** drop-down. From the **Time Period** drop-down list, select **Current Pay Period**.	
2	From **Leave Cases View**, verify that Sandy has open and approved leave case. Verify the **Leave Case Code, Leave Frequency** and **Leave Case Approval Status** columns for the car.	
3	Click the **Timecard** link from the Quick Links bar.	
4	From the Pay Code drop-down in the Timecard, select **FMLA Sick Leave Taken**.	

Committing Leave Time to the Timecard

Purpose

The Leave Case Editor is a tool available in the employee's timecard that allows you to enter leave time for an open leave case, especially when an employee has ongoing doctor's appointments or physical therapy. The Leave Case Editor lets you view, add, and modify leave time that was previously entered using the Leave Case Editor.

Exercise

Sandy Stamp has an open and approved intermittent leave case. She requested **four hours** of leave time for **Wednesday of the next pay period** to take her mother to physical therapy. You want to use the **Leave Case Editor** to enter and commit the intermittent leave time to her timecard.

Steps		
1	From **Related Items>My Views>My Genies,** select either the **Leave Cases View** or **Leave Hours View.** Select **All Home and Transferred-In** from the **Show** drop-down. From the **Time Period** drop-down list, select **Next Pay Period**.	
2	Select **Sandy Stamp** and click the **Timecard** link.	
3	Select **Leave>Edit**.	

Note: If the employee has more than one active leave case, a window will display. In the **Leave Case** column, select the applicable leave case.

Leave Case	Case Status	Start Date /	End Date	Leave Frequency
FPARNT	Open	9/01/2014		Intermittent
SLFILL	Open	10/20/2014		Intermittent

Steps

4	In the **Leave Time Amount** column, click the cell for the applicable day(s) and enter **4** leave time hours. **Note:** The Leave Time Amount must always be entered in 15-minute increments. Time for more than one day may be entered if needed.	**LEAVE CASE EDITOR** **Leave Case** FPARNT 12/01/2013 - \<None\> **Case Status** Open Date / Leave Time Amount Sat 2/01/2014 Sun 2/02/2014 Mon 2/03/2014 Tue 2/04/2014 Wed 2/05/2014 — 4 Thu 2/06/2014 Fri 2/07/2014 Save	Save & Close	Refresh	Close
5	Click **Save & Close**.	
6	The timecard will display. Select **Actions>Refresh** and confirm that the leave time displays in the timecard. **Note:** It may be necessary to rekey the remaining time for an exempt employee.	**TIMECARD** Loaded: 4:59PM Save	Actions	Punch ▼ Amount	Accruals ▼ Commen Refresh Refresh Data — Pay Code — Amount Calculate Totals E-mail ⇒ Print ⇒ Print Screen ⇒ Wed 2/05 — LV - FMLA TRACKING — 4:00 Wed 2/05 — LV - SICK LEAVE TAKEN — 4:00 Thu 2/06 Fri 2/07

Note

Contact your Leave Administrator if you are unable to commit the time.

Also, an employee may request the time by submitting a time off request, provided he/she has an open and approved extended leave case. The available selections will vary based on the type of leave case. See the **Employee Pay Codes for Time Off Requests** job aid for a list of these pay codes.
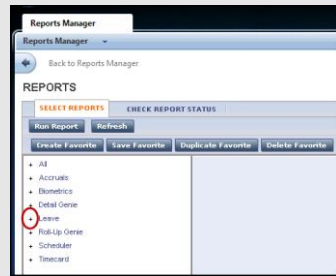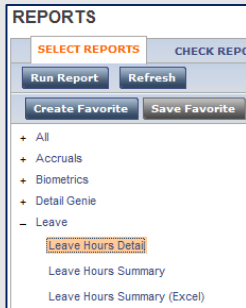
Generating Leave Reports
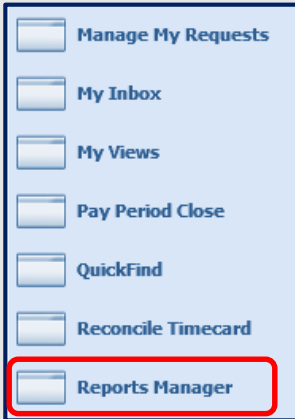
Purpose

Employee leave information is available in several different leave reports. You can generate leave reports on a daily, weekly, or pay-period basis, or any time you need information to accomplish your business tasks. For example, you can generate the Leave Hours Detail report to review the types of leave hours for each shift that has been committed to an employee's timecard.
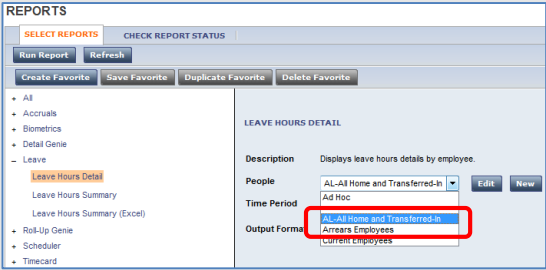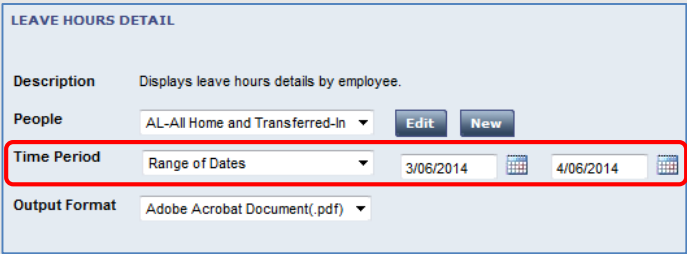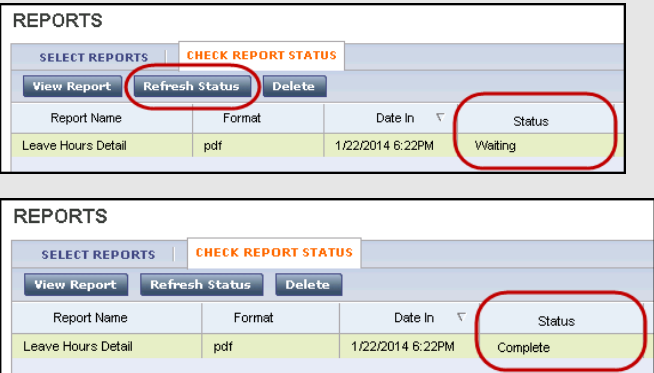
Exercise
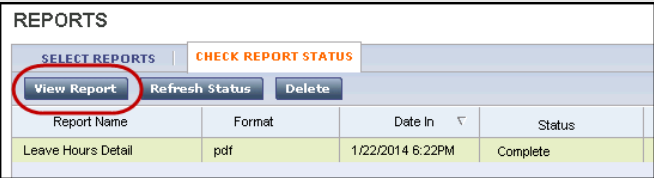
You want to review the **leave hours** for each employee. Generate the **Leave Hours Detail** report to view this information.

	Steps	
1	In the **Related Items** pane, click the **arrow** to expand the pane, and select **Reports Manager**.	
2	On the Select Report tab, click the plus sign (+) next to Leave to expand the category.	
3	Select **Leave Hours Detail** report.	

Steps

4	From the **People** drop-down list, select **All Home and Transferred In**.	
5	From the **Time Period** drop-down list, select a relative time period, or select **Range of Dates** and enter the date ranges you want to view. For this exercise, select **Range of Dates** and enter a **30-day time span**, using **today's date** for the start date.	
6	Click **Run Report**.	
7	You are redirected to the **Check Report Status** tab. Review information in the **Status** column. Click **Refresh Status**. Wait until **Complete** displays in the **Status** column.	
8	To view the report, click the report name and select **View Report**. (Sample leave reports display in the following section.)	
9	(Optional) To print the report to a local printer, select the **Print** button from the menu that displays on the report.	

Sample Leave Reports

Leave Hours Detail

The **Leave Hours Detail** report lists detailed leave information for employees with open or closed leave cases for the requested time period.

Use the **Leave Hours Detail** report when you want to view leave information included in the Leave Cases View and the Leave Hours View, in one convenient report.

The report is sorted alphabetically by employee and includes (but is not limited to):

- Leave Case Status

- Leave Type

- Leave Type Amount

- Leave Category

- Leave Reason

- Committed Hours

- Additional Information

The following illustration is an example of the **Leave Hours Detail** report.

Leave Hours Summary

The **Leave Hours Summary** report lists, for each employee, all open or closed leave cases in the requested time period, as well as any requested leave cases in the requested time period.

Use the **Leave Hours Summary** report to itemize and record total committed hours in a specified time period.

The report is sorted alphabetically by employee and includes (but is not limited to):

- Leave Case Status

- Leave Category

- Leave Reason

- Total Committed Continuous Hours

- Total Committed Intermittent Hours

The following illustration is an example of the **Leave Hours Summary** report.

Leave Hours Summary (Excel)

The options and report content in the **Leave Hours Summary (Excel)** report are the same as the Leave Hours Summary report.

Use the **Leave Hours Summary (Excel)** report if you plan to export the results to Excel for further sorting and analysis.

The following illustration is an example of the **Leave Hours Summary (Excel)** report.

Leave Hours Summary (Excel)
Time Period: 12/01/2013 - 2/15/2014
Query: All Home
Executed on: 1/23/2014 3:59PM GMT-05:00
Printed for: SuperUser

Name	ID:	Leave Case Status	Leave Category	Leave Case Reason	Leave Frequency	Leave Case Code	Initial Leave Request Date	Leave Start Date	Leave End Date	Total Committed Paid Hours	Total Committed Unpaid Hours	Total Committed Continuous Hours	Total Committed Intermittent Hours
Punch1, PennyA	10201	Open	Self	Birth	Continuous	FBABY	1/21/2014	12/2/2013	1/31/2014	0:00	0:00	0:00	0:00
Punch1, PennyB	20201	Open	Family	Family - Parent	Intermittent	FPARNT	1/21/2014	12/1/2013		0:00	0:00	0:00	0:00
Punch1, PennyC	30201	Open	Family	Family - Parent	Intermittent	FPARNT	1/21/2014	12/1/2013		0:00	0:00	0:00	0:00
Punch1, PennyD	40201	Open	Family	Family - Parent	Intermittent	FPARNT	1/21/2014	12/1/2013		0:00	0:00	0:00	0:00
Punch1, PennyE	50201	Open	Family	Family - Parent	Intermittent	FPARNT	1/21/2014	12/1/2013		0:00	0:00	0:00	0:00
Stamp1, SandyA	10401	Open	Family	Family - Parent	Intermittent	FPARNT	1/22/2014	12/1/2013		12:00	12:00	0:00	12:00
Stamp1, SandyB	20401	Open	Family	Family - Parent	Intermittent	FPARNT	1/22/2014	12/1/2013		8:00	8:00	0:00	8:00
Stamp1, SandyC	30401	Open	Family	Family - Parent	Intermittent	FPARNT	1/22/2014	12/1/2013		8:00	8:00	0:00	8:00
Stamp1, SandyD	40401	Open	Family	Family - Parent	Intermittent	FPARNT	1/22/2014	12/1/2013		0:00	0:00	0:00	0:00
Stamp1, SandyE	50401	Open	Family	Family - Parent	Intermittent	FPARNT	1/22/2014	12/1/2013		8:00	8:00	0:00	8:00

Notes